

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The limitation of claim 5 has been added to claims 1 and 38.

Claim 5 has been rejected over Muessli in view of Mies et al. on the grounds that Muessli teaches "multi-chip module 40 mounted on a single circuit board 41". Muessli, however, discloses the following:

The three coils of the oscillating circuit transformer are realized as printed coils (not illustrated) wherein one half of the coils is arranged, respectively, on the printed board 41, the other half, respectively, on the additional board 42. The additional board 42 is placed upside-down onto the printed board 41 so that the corresponding partial coils can be soldered to one another. In this way, the three coils can be produced much more quickly and in a more space-saving way in comparison to conventional ballasts in which three wire coils must be wound by hand onto the annular core and must be finally soldered to the printed board. Col. 5, lines 6-16.

Clearly, the arrangement in Muessli requires at least two circuit boards 41, 42 for a complete ballast. Thus, claims 1 and 38 are distinguishable from the art of record.

Claim 6 has been rejected over Muessli in view of Mies et al. as well as on the grounds that Muessli teaches:

ballast circuit 40 including elements mounted on both sides of the circuit board 41 (Muessli, Column 2, lines 63-65, and Column 4, lines 38-41).

Muessli, however, only states that its circuit board 41 includes wiring on both sides. See, e.g. Col. 4, lines 41-42 ("The printed circuit board 41 is provided on both sides with conductors"). Muessli does not show or describe components of a ballast circuit on both sides of circuit board 41. Thus, claim 6 is distinguishable from the cited art of record. Reconsideration is requested.

The application is believed to be in condition for allowance. Such action is earnestly solicited.

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